Photo by Ed Rich

A CASE RADIO CLUB MEMBER sits by his equipment in the basement of Old Main.

Case Amateur Radio Club Renovated After Many Years of Inactivity

The old sanitary engineering laboratory in the basement of Old Main has become the official meeting place for dedicated amateur radio operators on the Case campus. It is the site of the restored Case Amateur Radio Club now in operation after many years of inactivity. Station call letters issued by the F.C.C. are W8EDU, and 30 club members use the equipment according to their individually licensed operating privileges.

Last semester Chester J. Slabinski, a junior, initiated attempts to re-establish the club to the status it enjoyed several years ago. The previous station, W8URD, recorded contacts with nearly 100 countries, though the club became inactive due to a lack of interest.

With the help of fellow hams and Dr. Marshall Crouch, the present club advisor, Chester renewed interest in amateur station activities, and he now presides over the newly formed organization. Mr. Slabinski commented: "It made me sick to see these small liberal arts colleges with elaborate amateur radio stations and Case, a leading technological institution, with many hams and no equipment."

In less than a month of operation, club hams have contacted amateurs in ten states and several points in Canada with their low power equipment supplied by members. Future plans for the organization, now temporaraily chartered by the Senate, include the establishment of better operating equipment and a more efficient antenna system. The primary objective is service to the Case community via amateur radio, such as providing emergency communication and handling radiogram messages for resident students.

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